



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Pipeline and Hazardous
Materials Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington DC 20590

PIPELINE SAFETY

2010 State Damage Prevention Grant

for

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Please follow the directions listed below:

1. Review the entire document for completeness.
2. Review and have an authorized signatory sign page 2.
3. Fasten all pages with a paper or binder clip - no staples please as this package will be scanned upon it's arrival at PHMSA.
4. Mail the entire document, including this cover page to the following:

**ATTN: Karina Munoz
U.S. Department of Transportation
Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
Office of Contracts and Procurement
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Second Floor E22-228
Washington, D.C. 20590**

FedSTAR Information

Submission Date: 8/31/2009 2:28:15 PM



**Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington DC 20590**

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

APPLICATION

2010 GRANT PROGRAM IN SUPPORT OF STATE DAMAGE PREVENTION

The VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE hereby applies to the Department of Transportation for Federal funds appropriated for the support of State Damage Prevention Programs established under 49 U.S.C. Section 60134 et seq.

The State agency plans to carry out the State Damage Prevention Program, during calendar year 2010, as described in Attachment 1, "Project Abstract/Statement of Objectives". To accomplish the program, the state agency proposes to expend funds as set forth in Attachment 4, "State Damage Prevention Estimated Budget".

Signature

Title

Date



Project Abstract/Statement of Objectives

Please provide a clear and concise description of the work this grant will fund for calendar year 2010

In June 2008 the Vermont Public Service Depart (PSD) was awarded a state damage prevention program grant, agreement # DTPH56-08-G-PHPS13. The funds awarded were used to conduct a detailed analysis of the existing damage prevention program within Vermont and detail opportunities for improvement (full report is available online at http://publicservice.vermont.gov/DigSafe/Vermont_Underground_Utility_Damage_Prevention_Improvement_Program070709.pdf) . This study effectively performed a gap analysis and successfully uncovered deficiencies in the current damage prevention program, and highlighted areas which clearly need immediate attention. Some aspects of the underground damage prevention program were found to require further study. In addition it was clear that there is a need to develop a comprehensive strategy that systematically and effectively addresses identified shortcomings in the current underground damage prevention system by applying the 9 Elements in a customized fashion best suited to a rural state like Vermont. It is important to recognize that while the 9 Elements represent the best practices we all agree with, the application and execution is not "one size fits all". The actions proposed herein are targeted at four areas which were given high priority for improvement and are designed to provide immediate solutions where appropriate, while providing a mechanism for strategy development and a plan for developing ongoing metrics for measuring the success of new and current initiatives. The four areas to be addressed are as follows:

- Outreach and communications
- Quality assurance program for locators
- Structured education program
- Development of information technology resources

Outreach and Communication Actions.

Craft a "VT DPP Communications Plan" that includes the following elements:

- Develop a comprehensive communication strategy based on available damage incident and survey data augmented with new data received through outreach efforts to establish multiple cost effective methods of communication to best suit the needs of the diverse population of excavators and utilities that serve both rural and urban areas of the state. Establish a means to measure the success of communication efforts such as website hits, attendance at meetings, and response to direct mailings. Document approaches and process to assure repeatability.
- Begin deployment of new communication efforts developed in the communications strategy. Expected efforts include personal communication or site visits, emailed updates containing information on damage prevention initiative, direct mailings on special topics such as: protecting underground facilities; excavator responsibilities; description of fines matrix and damage investigation process; locating privately owned facilities; etc. ;
- Compile a list of contact information for all VT utilities including water and sewer districts, and independent fuel dealers. Distribute this list to a minimum of 200 excavators and develop a searchable

website which would list contact information for all non-member utilities servicing a given zip code or town similar to the "OK to dig" website (www.oktodig.com) in Maine.

- Conduct meetings and interviews with municipalities, water districts, and DigSafe Systems to explore convenient and acceptable notification systems for non-member utilities such as water and sewer providers and explore funding mechanisms for one-call membership and locating services.
- Seek input and gather information from contractors through a variety of functions around the state to identify the most effective means for them to access damage prevention information. Determine the most effective means of distributing communications and informing excavators about existing communication and training efforts. Redesign PSD website to contain a series of pages highlighting damage prevention topics and resources. Proposed content for website includes:
 - Copy of Vermont State Statutes and Public Service Board Rules governing the damage prevention system.
 - Damage investigation process.
 - Fee schedule and considerations for violation of damage prevention laws.
 - System for scheduling pre-excavation meetings.
 - Forms for reporting damage incidents.
 - Links to Dig Safe Systems Inc. Common Ground Alliance, Excavation Safety Online, New England Managing Underground Safety and Training(MUST), VT chapter of the Associated General Contractors, relevant utility websites.
 - Schedule of training events throughout the State.
 - Contact information for requesting onsite training.
 - Searchable database of contact information for non-member utilities.
 - On-line training module.

Locating Quality Assurance Actions.

Craft a "VT DPP Quality Assurance Plan" that includes the following elements:

- Within the authority of the PSD, promote define all options to promote the adoption of locating quality assurance program for utilities and their contractors.
- Rely on NULCA standards to develop an initial best practices template.
- Customize the template for regulatory use by:
 - Determine size and scope of locating deficiencies through examination of damage incident data.
 - Submit information requests to all entities performing locates within the state for existing QA programs.
- Examine and compare other state practices regarding locating QA programs to discover methods of implementation.

Structured Education Program Actions.

Craft a "VT DPP Education Plan" that includes the following elements:

- Determine reasons for underutilization of current training programs and need for additional training opportunities through outreach to excavators at organized functions and surveying via phone interviews and direct mail.

- Work with MUST and DigSafe Systems to develop a comprehensive damage prevention curriculum building on existing programs. Topics to add include; pre-excavation site inspection and documentation, documentation of locator marks, documentation and reporting of damage incidents, development of "tailgate training" modules.
- Perform workshops for utilities and excavators to assist in developing damage prevention plans.
- Examine damage incident data to determine locations within the State to target training initiatives.
- Use developed curriculum to produce an online training module and associated quiz to be posted on the PSD website. This module would allow the user to submit feedback and contact information at the end of the training.

Information Technology Development Actions.

Craft a "VT DPP Technology Plan" that includes the following elements:

- Seek opportunities for productivity improvements and accuracy through improved methods of data entry such as electronic forms with automation capability to transfer damage data collected by facility operators to a state database.
- Perform a needs assessment to determine the required functionality for a damage reporting software package and develop and RFP for software developers. Examine existing hardware and software configurations and determine if investment will be required.
- Examine existing systems such as the Virtual Private DIRT developed by the CGA and determine if they would satisfy PSD needs.

Integrate the four proposed tactical plans with current initiatives to form a comprehensive statewide underground damage prevention strategy which addresses the 9 elements and provides a mechanism for regular assessment of success metrics.

State Damage Prevention Elements

ELEMENT 1 - EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

"Participation by operators, excavators, and other stakeholders in the development and implementation of methods for establishing and maintaining effective communications between stakeholders from receipt of an excavation notification until successful completion of the excavation, as appropriate."

Does the proposed project address this element? (Required) Yes

Describe any existing state initiatives that support this element: (Required)

Dig Safe Systems Inc. serves as the one call center for the state of Vermont providing toll-free access Monday-Friday, 6:00am-6:00pm and 24 hour online access to ticket submission. Dig Safe System will also relay requests for pre-excavation meetings and reports of unknown or mis-marked facilities to utility operators. The Vermont Public Service Department (PSD) distributes a packet of information to a maintained list of contractors and excavators explaining the damage prevention laws and describing the resources available to them, such as pre-excavation meetings and dispute resolution services. Recently an outreach initiative directed at municipalities and non-member utilities has been undertaken to explain the benefits of OCC membership.

Describe how the proposed project will enhance or continue implementation of this element: (Required only if proposal addresses this element)

The actions outlined above are designed to address two shortcomings in the current damage prevention program: non-member utilities and gaps in communication between the regulatory agency, utility operators and excavators. Because there is an exemption for one-call center membership for water and sewer facility operators in the Vermont statutes governing underground damage prevention, excavators are sometimes required to make multiple calls to alert all concerned facility operators of their excavation activities. In addition, the contact information for these operators is not always easily found, as a single water district may serve multiple towns and cities. Excavators have voiced concerns over their inability to contact non-member utilities and the subsequent marking of these facilities. Facility operators have voiced concerns about the ability to locate these facilities due to cost constraints, lack of as-built information, and the age and material of facilities. Publishing contact information for these entities will allow excavators to establish communication with facility operators and obtain information about approximate location and facility type if accurate locating is not possible. However, this is not a desirable long term solution, and a method to bring these utilities under the umbrella of Dig Safe Systems Inc. for notification purposes will be sought to ensure these facility operators are routinely notified of excavation activities. Development of a system which will allow these facilities to join the one-call center at little or no additional cost will provide excavators with a true one call center for notifying all facility operators.

Survey data contained in the Vermont Underground Utility Program Improvement report indicate many contractors are unaware of damage prevention materials sent to them despite efforts from the PSD, utility operators, and Dig Safe Systems, largely through direct mail. Responses to the same survey also indicate excavators prefer a variety of communication

ELEMENT 2 - COMPREHENSIVE STAKEHOLDER SUPPORT

"A process for fostering and ensuring the support and partnership of stakeholders, including excavators, operators, locators, designers, and local government in all phases of the program."

Does the proposed project address this element? (Required) No

Describe any existing state initiatives that support this element: (Required)

In 2007 a local chapter of the New England Managing Underground Safety and Training (MUST) group was established in Vermont. MUST is comprised of members from utility operators, excavators, the one call center and the public service department. This group serves primarily to provide training opportunities to contractors and excavators, but also holds quarterly meetings to discuss PSD and Common Ground Alliance (CGA) initiatives, damage incident trends, new technologies, and hear concerns from utility operators and excavators regarding damage prevention.



ELEMENT 3 - OPERATOR INTERNAL PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

"A process for reviewing the adequacy of a pipeline operator's internal performance measures regarding persons performing locating services and quality assurance programs."

Does the proposed project address this element? (Required) Yes

Describe any existing state initiatives that support this element: (Required)

Many major utilities and contract locators report utilizing some form of a quality assurance program for persons performing locating services. These programs range from a quarterly review of locates performed with onsite spot checks to a performance review triggered when the locator is found to be responsible for a damage incident. Although not required by law for most utility operators, the PSD strongly encourages the adoption of a damage prevention plan and has provided a template for such a plan, which includes a quality assurance program for locators.

Describe how the proposed project will enhance or continue implementation of this element: (Required only if proposal addresses this element)

Underground facility location-related errors were the third most common cause of damages occurring between 2003 and 2008. Quality assurance programs are an important element to ensure timely and accurate locates are being performed. Damages caused by improper locates can cause excavators to become apathetic toward the damage prevention system and see it as an ineffective program in which they should not participate. Many utilities claim to have a locating quality assurance program in place, but have failed to produce specifics on how these programs are implemented. For those utilities reporting on their quality assurance efforts, it has been found that programs vary widely from regular assessments of locator performance, to sparse reviews only after a damage has occurred. The PSD will verify the existence of QA programs within each firm performing locates to determine the quality of these programs and implementation practices. Experience has shown there is resistance by many firms to voluntarily implement a quality assurance program and it is expected a mandate will be required to assure 100% adoption of these programs throughout the state. Investigation into the statutes governing not only damage prevention, but utility regulation may uncover an existing provision which will allow a rule to be drafted by the Public Service Board requiring quality assurance programs for locators. Research into other state practices will uncover means of deploying an effective QA program and assist in drafting language which is not over burdensome to firms. If necessary, the results of these analyses will be used as evidence for the legislature that action is required to address this problem and to encourage sponsorship of new legislation.

ELEMENT 4 - EFFECTIVE EMPLOYEE TRAINING

"Participation by operators, excavators, and other stakeholders in the development and implementation of effective employee training programs to ensure that operators, the one call center, the enforcing agency, and the excavators have partnered to design and implement training for the employees of operators, excavators, and locators."

Does the proposed project address this element? (Required) Yes

Describe any existing state initiatives that support this element: (Required)

- Dig Safe Systems Inc. performs scheduled training sessions on one call center operations and use and works with specific groups to provide customized onsite training upon request.
- Dig Safe Systems Inc. produces and distributes an excavator manual to a list of contractors and excavators along with a packet of other information regarding one call center operations and the damage prevention system. This excavator manual, along with a damage prevention quiz are available online at www.digsafe.com.
- The Public Service Department holds 2-3 half day training sessions annually. Often a Dig Safe Systems Inc. and a MUST representative are invited to these sessions to present a module specific to their field of expertise.
- PSD staff is available to all utilities and contractors seeking advice on how to perform excavations. PSD staff will attend, in person or by phone, preconstruction meetings or meetings during the course of an excavation.
- MUST holds scheduled training sessions primarily in the Montpelier region (roughly 10 scheduled events in 2009). These are comprehensive training sessions covering a variety of damage prevention topics with safety as the underlying theme. Upon request, MUST will perform onsite training which is tailored to the audience.

Describe how the proposed project will enhance or continue implementation of this element: (Required only if proposal addresses this element)

There is a robust training program in Vermont with participation from PSD, MUST, and DigSafe Systems. These training programs are designed to be roughly one hour in length and provide a general overview of damage prevention topics. However, only 50% of surveyed excavators report receiving damage prevention training. What is not known is if this is due to lack of: availability; awareness of existing opportunities; or interest in receiving damage prevention training. Further investigation into excavator needs and motivations is warranted to best deploy state resources to enhance and supplement currently available training resources. Surveys indicate that general knowledge of the damage prevention system is high among excavators which may create the perception that training is not necessary. However, surveys also indicate that knowledge of more nuanced aspects of damage prevention such as protecting exposed facilities, proper pre-marking, and use of hand digging or vacuum excavation is not as high. It is also recognized that different excavation scenarios require different knowledge to best prevent utility damages. Surveys and outreach activities will be used to determine if more training opportunities are needed, how to target those opportunities, and what topics to include in training opportunities. Feedback received by outreach efforts will also be used to develop new curriculum such as shorter special topic training sessions, and "tailgate training" materials, which are designed to be short topical

ELEMENT 5 - PUBLIC EDUCATION

"A process for fostering and ensuring active participation by all stakeholders in public education for damage prevention activities."

Does the proposed project address this element? (Required) No

Describe any existing state initiatives that support this element: (Required)

Dig Safe Systems conducts a multifaceted public outreach campaign based on a marketing study performed by Delahaye Medialink in May 2003. This campaign consists of 30 second public service announcements airing on local and cable networks, 88 total radio spots on 10 local stations during the spring/summer months, and 21 total spots on 8 stations during the fall. In addition, Dig Safe distributes packages of table top displays including stickers, key chains, and excavator manuals to 55 equipment rental companies in Vermont. Several utilities including Vermont Gas Systems, Green Mountain Power, Central Vermont Public Service, Burlington Electric, and Vermont Electric Co-Op distribute bill stuffers detailing damage prevention information to customers annually. Pursuant to the requirements of US DOT 49 CFR Part 192 Sections 192.7 and 192.616 ? Public Awareness; DOT 49 CFR Part 192.911(m) Subpart O ? Pipeline Integrity Management (External Communications Requirement Only). Vermont Gas undertakes additional outreach activities directed at the affected public, emergency officials, local public officials, and excavators.



ELEMENT 6 - DISPUTE RESOLUTION

"A process for resolving disputes that defines the State authority's role as a partner and facilitator to resolve issues."

Does the proposed project address this element? (Required) No

Describe any existing state initiatives that support this element: (Required)

The Public Service Department provides dispute resolution services to utility operators and excavators. Currently these services are not widely used, however new legislation went into effect in 2008 which redesigned the underground facility damage investigation process to include an informal conference between involved parties.



ELEMENT 7 - ENFORCEMENT

"Enforcement of State damage prevention laws and regulations for all aspects of the damage prevention process, including public education, and the use of civil penalties for violations assessable by the appropriate State authority."

Does the proposed project address this element? (Required) No

Describe any existing state initiatives that support this element: (Required)

Vermont Public Service Board rules 3.805 and 3.807 give authority to the Public Service Department and the Public Service Board for investigation into damage incidents and enforcement of the damage prevention law when a violation is discovered. Currently the Public Service Department utilizes an escalating fine schedule of not more than \$500.00 for the first offense, not more than \$1,000.00 for the second offense within one year of the date of the first offense, not more than \$1,500.00 for the third offense within one year of the first offense, and not more than \$5,000.00 for the fourth or subsequent offense within one year of the date of a previous offense.



ELEMENT 8 - TECHNOLOGY

"A process for fostering and promoting the use, by all appropriate stakeholders, of improving technologies that may enhance communications, underground pipeline locating capability, and gathering and analyzing information about the accuracy and effectiveness of locating programs."

Does the proposed project address this element? (Required) Yes

Describe any existing state initiatives that support this element: (Required)

The Public Service Department maintains a list of stakeholders to which it distributes notification of relevant seminars, and damage prevention publications such as: CGA annual meetings: PHMSA and CGA newsletters and bulletins, and national underground damage trends. A member of the MUST group has attended the CGA annual meeting, and the Northeast Gas Association annual meeting at which new technologies for documentation, locating, and pipeline integrity are discussed. In 2007 PSD contracted to have a database developed to track damage incidents. This database captures all of the data necessary to report to the CGA DIRT tool, which PSD submits data to annually.

Describe how the proposed project will enhance or continue implementation of this element: (Required only if proposal addresses this element)

The current database in use by PSD requires significant personnel hours to enter data acquired from damage report forms filed by utility operators, and evidence gathered by the damage incident investigator. This database allows for automatic upload to the CGA DIRT database, but does not allow easy extraction or manipulation of data for use in other PSD activities such as generation of probable violation notifications or review of damage trends. This has created an underutilization of this data to inform underground damage prevention initiatives, and added significant costs to the damage investigation process. It has been determined that outsourcing of this IT function to a vendor who can design and administer a data management tool will best address the needs of the PSD which will allow for more effective use of the data and personnel resources. Desired capabilities and existing configurations need to be determined so specifications can be submitted to vendors for proposal development. After proposals have been received a cost benefit analysis will occur to ensure savings are achieved in a specified payback period. This system will allow for more effective program review to improve current initiatives and highlight areas where new initiatives are needed. More effective data management will also increase data accuracy and improve enforcement process productivity.

ELEMENT 9 - DAMAGE PREVENTION PROGRAM REVIEW

"A process for review and analysis of the effectiveness of each program element, including a means for implementing improvements identified by such program reviews."

Does the proposed project address this element? (Required) No

Describe any existing state initiatives that support this element: (Required)

The Public Service Department collects detailed information about damage incidents which occur within the State. This data is submitted to the DIRT reporting tool managed by the CGA, and used to inform PSD policies and initiatives. In 2008 the Public Service Department utilized a state damage prevention program grant from PHMSA to conduct a detailed analysis of the existing damage prevention program within Vermont. This resulted in a detailed report examining the status of each of the nine elements within Vermont in regards to CGA best practices, practices implemented by the one call center and utility operators, damage incident data, and stakeholder impressions of the system.



Legislative/Regulatory Actions

Provide a description of any legislature or regulatory actions (including legislative/regulatory studies) taken by the State within the past five (5) years pertaining to damage prevention program improvement, even if those actions were not completely successful.

In 2008 the Vermont legislature passed Act 145 which made several changes to the Vermont Underground Damage Prevention law. This act serves to provide clarification by updating the definitions of "excavation activities", "powered or mechanized equipment", "hand tools", "verified utilities", and the "damage prevention program". Language was also added which clarifies the period for which an excavation notification is valid. More significantly Act 145 changed the penalty structure from a maximum fine of \$1000.00 to an escalating fine structure for successive violations of the damage prevention laws within one year of each other. The penalty for violation of any law, statute or regulation of gas safety was increased to a maximum of \$100,000.00 per violation with a maximum of \$1,000,000.00. A sunset provision on the requirement to pre-mark was removed, making pre-marking a permanent feature of the damage prevention program. Finally Act 145 mandated the creation of an appeals process before an independent adjudicator for appealing fines assessed for violation of the underground damage prevention law.

In July of 2009 an assessment of the underground damage prevention program was completed by the University of Vermont. This study examined the current status of the underground damage prevention program in relation to the nine elements detailed in the PIPES act, and made a series of prioritized recommendations based on perceived benefit and feasibility. These recommendations have been used to inform the actions described in this solicitation.



State Damage Prevention Application Attachments

Governors ltr.signed.reqd for 2010 SDPP grant.pdf



SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES

(a) Grant Program		(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e)TOTALS
8.	State Damage Prevention Program	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
9.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
10.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
11.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
12. TOTAL (sum of lines 8-11)		\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>

SECTION D - FORECASTED CASH NEEDS

	Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
13. Federal	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
14. Non-Federal	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
15. TOTAL (sum of lines 13 and 14)	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>

SECTION E - BUDGET ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL FUNDS NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF THE PROJECT

(a) Grant Program		FUTURE FUNDING PERIODS (YEARS)			
		(b)First	(c) Second	(d) Third	(e) Fourth
16.	State Damage Prevention Program	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>
17.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
18.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
19.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
20. TOTAL (sum of lines 16 - 19)		\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>	\$ <input type="text"/>

SECTION F - OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION

21. Direct Charges: <input type="text"/>	22. Indirect Charges: <input type="text"/>
23. Remarks: <input type="text"/>	

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 Standard Form 424A (Rev. 7- 97)
 Prescribed by OMB (Circular A -102) Page 2

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

Version 02

* 1. Type of Submission:

- ☐ Preapplication
☒ Application
☐ Changed/Corrected Application

* 2. Type of Application:

- ☒ New
☐ Continuation
☐ Revision

* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):

* Other (Specify)

* 3. Date Received:

08/31/2009

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

* 5b. Federal Award Identifier:

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

* a. Legal Name:

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):

03-6000274

* c. Organizational DUNS:

809376791

d. Address:

* Street1:

112 State Street

Street2:

* City:

Montpelier

County:

* State:

VT: Vermont

Province:

* Country:

USA: UNITED STATES

* Zip / Postal Code:

05620-2601

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

VERMONT DEPT OF PUBLIC SERVIC

Division Name:

VERMONT DEPT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:

Mr.

* First Name:

GC

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Morris

Suffix:

Title:

Gas Engineer

Organizational Affiliation:

* Telephone Number:

8028284073

Fax Number:

* Email:

gc.morris@state.vt.us

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

Version 02

9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

A: State Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

* 10. Name of Federal Agency:

Pipeline & Hazardous Material Safety Administration

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

20.720

CFDA Title:

Pipeline Safety

* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:

DTPH56-10-SN-0001

* Title:

State Damage Prevention Grants

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE State Damage Prevention

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

Version 02

*** Applicant Federal Debt Delinquency Explanation**

The following field should contain an explanation if the Applicant organization is delinquent on any Federal Debt. Maximum number of characters that can be entered is 4,000. Try and avoid extra spaces and carriage returns to maximize the availability of space.

CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

* APPLICANT'S ORGANIZATION

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

* PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

Prefix: Mr. * First Name: Richard Middle Name:
* Last Name: Smith Suffix:
* Title: Deputy Commissioner

* SIGNATURE: GC Morris

* DATE: 08/31/2009

JAMES H. DOUGLAS
Governor



State of Vermont
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

August 12, 2009

Warren D. Osterberg
Agreement Officer
U.S. Department of Transportation
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
Office of Contracts and Procurement (PHA-30)
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Room E22-103
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Federal Grant Opportunity (solicitation) number DTPH56-10-SN-0001 for
Calendar Year 2010

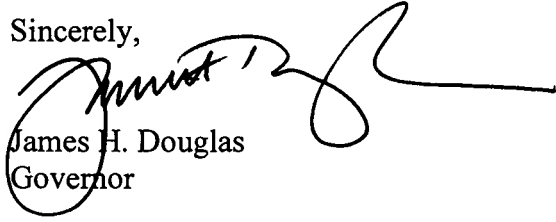
Dear Mr. Osterberg:

This letter is to verify that the Vermont Department of Public Service (DPS) is the appropriate state agency to apply for and receive any available federal grant funds associated with the state damage prevention program, which was authorized by the Pipeline Inspection, Protection, Enforcement, and Safety Act of 2006 (Pipes Act of 2006).

Any questions can be directed to GC Morris, Gas Utility Engineer or Richard Smith, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Public Service at (802) 828-2811.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


James H. Douglas
Governor